

Contents

University news

- 2 Honorary doctorates for Prof. Meyer
- 3 600 years of medicine at JU
- 4 Centenary anniversary of JU musicology
- 6 Success of JU law students
- 7 Szyborska's Nobel Prize medal at JU
- 7 JCET laboratory opened



- 8 EURODOC 2012 in Krak—w
- 8 'Beethoven: war and peace' exhibition

Features

- 10 50 years of scientific collaboration with the University of Jena
- 12 The cultural contribution of Polish Muslims and Jordanian Christians to their indigenous societies
- 15 The first JU programme abroad in London
- 16 Confronting the burden of history. Anglophone literature studies in V4 countries
- 17 Jewish studies at Jagiellonian University
- 19 Prof. Andrzej Szczeklik in memoriam



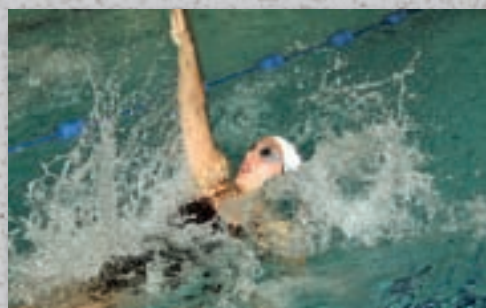
International relations

- 20 Euro-Russian Academic Network - ERANET Mundus
- 21 Developing intercultural competence: collaboration with Ivano-Frankivsk
- 22 'Medical Development in Europe' with Stockholm and Cagliari
- 23 Visit from Goethe University Frankfurt am Main
- 24 Polish-Chinese Forum of Rectors in Beijing



Student life

- 25 From Sydney to Krak—w
- 26 Erasmus Orientation Week
- 27 Carnival ball and swimming contest in Collegium Medicum



- 29 ESN trip to the Tatras

Honorary doctorate for Prof. Hans-Joachim Meyer

On 16 November 2011 an honorary doctorate was conferred upon Prof. Hans-Joachim Meyer from Städtisches Klinikum Solingen of the University of Cologne. The conferment ceremony was held in the Aula of Collegium Maius. The Senate of the Jagiellonian University, after having accepted the motion of the Council of the JU Faculty of Medicine and the reviews of Prof. Marek Krawczyk from the Medical University of Warsaw and Prof. Adam Dżiki from the Medical University of Łódź, decided to confer the title of doctor honoris causa of the Jagiellonian University upon Prof. Meyer for his achievements, including:

- creation of the project of a uniform system of surgical treatment of patients with gastric cancer to be applied throughout Europe,
- contribution to the development of the Polish and Kraków surgery by facilitating and promoting joint research in general surgery, abdominal surgery, oncologic surgery and laparoscopic techniques in surgery,
- contribution to the establishment and development of the kidney transplantation in Kraków,
- involvement of Polish surgeons in multicentre European research on pathogenesis of alimentary tract carcinoma.

Prof. Meyer was born in Hannover in 1948. He graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich in 1972. In the same year he defended his doctoral dissertation. In 1973, he became an assistant at the Chair of General Surgery of the Medical University of Hannover under the supervision of the renowned surgeon and

transplantologist Professor Rudolf Pichlmayr. He completed his habilitation in 1981 and received the title of professor in 1986.

Since the early 1980s Prof. Meyer has been a true friend of the Kraków surgeons who thanks to his support and assistance could improve their skills. Numerous Kraków surgeons underwent training under his supervision in the Hannover clinic. They became familiar with endoscopy, ultrasonography, transplantology and laparoscopy – methods that were not available in Poland at that time.

His academic output includes 201 articles in international medical periodicals. He is the author and co-author of 127 chapters of textbooks and editor of 12 works. The number of his presentations in various medical congresses is truly astounding. And so is the number of lectures and video presentations (over 800).

Prof. Meyer is the initiator of the European Union Network of Excellence for Gastric Cancer (EUNE) aiming at establishing a uniform system of surgical treatment of patients with gastric cancer to be applied in surgical academic centres in Europe.

The scientific contacts of Prof. Meyer with the Jagiellonian University First Chair of General and Gastroenterologic Surgery have lasted for over 30 years. Thanks to the collaboration the JU surgeons have implemented pioneering techniques under his supervision and have been involved in various international research groups and projects concerning gastric cancer therapies.

M. Kantor



A. Wojnar



Rector Musiał handing the diploma to Prof. Meyer

Prof. Meyer speaking during the conferment ceremony

600 years of medicine at JU

The title of the exhibition ‘600 years of medicine in Kraków’ should be treated as a kind of generalisation. Since if we want to measure the time from the creation of the Faculty of Medicine at the Jagiellonian University we should state that it was 648 years ago, i.e. when the University was founded by King Casimir the Great in 1364. But we do not know how the Faculty of Medicine functioned in its beginnings. When the building, known today as Collegium Maius, became the JU headquarters in ca. the year 1400, on the groundfloor there were halls called *Lektorium Galena*, which is the oldest place of *cursus medicus*, i.e. courses of medicine. In the year 1428 a college of medicine was situated next to Collegium Iuridicum in Grodzka Street. However, the wooden building was burnt down in 1717 and the precious documents of the Faculty of Medicine were lost.

The first known professor of medicine was Jan Cro (d. 1454), who was the JU rector in 1419. Another professor of medicine Jan de Sacchis (of Italian background) was elected rector in 1425. He supervised four doctoral dissertations in medicine in Kraków. In the future three of these doctors of medical sciences would organise three chairs of medicine. However, the ‘father of the local medicine’ was Maciej Karpigi of Miechów (1457-1523). He was called the ‘Polish Hippocrates.’ He was a professor of medicine and initiator of another chair of medicine as well as rector of the University, elected eight times. In 1508 his *Contra saevam pestem regimen* was published as the first printed book by a Polish medical doctor. It concerned ways of preventing the spread of pestilence. The 16th century was a time of splendour for the Kraków University. Its specialists in medicine wrote books on anatomy, pulse, healing characteristics of springs. They provided descriptions of various diseases and served as royal physicians.

One experienced physician is worth 100 warriors – Homer

The University was reformed in the second half of the 18th c. but the Austrian occupation of Kraków and southern Poland at the beginning of the 19th c. caused stagnation in science. Napoleon’s defeat and the creation of Kraków as a ‘free, independent and strictly neutral’ city led to the development of the University and its faculty of medicine. It had magnificent professors of medicine, including Ludwig Bierkowski (1801-1860) who conducted the first operation with general anaesthetic in Poland (on 6 February 1847). It is worth knowing that the first operation using ether was conducted in Boston on 16 October 1846. Bierkowski’s contemporary was professor of pathology, general therapy and internal surgery Maciej Józef Brodowicz (1790-1885) who worked out the obligations and privileges of patients, doctors and nurses. He commanded all doctors to document diseases and their treatments. Over 4,000 medical cases described by him and his assistants have been preserved until today. The next outstanding professor of medicine was Józef Majer (1808-1899) who established two new chairs, i.e. physiology and anthropology. He was the co-author of *The Anatomical-Physiological Dictionary*, which was the first attempt to order medical terminology in Polish.

The 1850s were a turning point in the history of Kraków medicine. In 1850, Józef Dietl (1804-1878) arrived in Kraków



The exhibition in the Jagiellonian Library

M. Kantor



The exhibition in the Jagiellonian Library

M. Kantor

from Vienna. He soon became the director of the chair and clinic of internal diseases, which he developed and modernised. He was first of all an eminent diagnostician. He was the first to prove that blood dropping was harmful.

The Jagiellonian University owes a lot to Ludwik Rydygier (1850-1920) who built a new clinic in Kopernika Street in 1889. It was called 'White Surgery' because of the white plaster of its walls. The clinic hosted the First Congress of Polish Surgeons in the same year. He gained international fame for the operation of gastric resection (*modo Rydygier*). His successor was Prof. Alfred Obaliński (1843-1898) who contributed to the creation of a modern surgical building opposite the 'White Surgery' building, which with time became the Second Chair of Surgery, known as 'The Red Surgery' (the red brick walls of the clinic). Obaliński was the first to use X-ray pictures in clinical diagnoses. He also co-founded the Kraków Emergency, which was the second emergency service in Europe (after the emergency unit in Vienna).

The turn of the 19th and the 20th centuries brought about further development of the Faculty of Medicine at the Jagiellonian University, including the separation of new fields: stomatology, ophthalmology, laryngology, dermatology, gynaecology and obstetrics as well as children's wards that had talented lecturers and practitioners.

The exhibition brings together artefacts illustrating this long and colourful history of the Faculty of Medicine. A unique review of historic figures, drawings, and photographs took visitors back to the times when medical students had studied illuminated manuscripts and eminent Polish scholars laid the foundations of modern medicine. The collection also featured old textbooks of anatomy, diplomas, first treatises about bubonic fever and pulse, historical medical equipment, personal belongings of Polish medical scholars and historical learning aids.

The exhibition was the first one of this type in Kraków and Poland. It was open on 12 January - 28 February 2012. The commissioner of the exhibition was Ass. Prof. Ryszard Gryglewski from the JU Department of History of Medicine.

M. Kantor

On the basis of the exhibition catalogue



M. Kantor

Centenary anniversary of musicology 1911-2011

In 2011 the JU Institute of Musicology celebrated its 100 years of existence. It was a special event as the creation of the Kraków centre was the beginning of musicology as a university discipline in Poland. In the academic year 1911/1912 Prof. Zdzisław Jachimecki called into being the Seminar of History and Theory of Music, which after World War II was transformed into the Chair of History and Theory of Music, and then in the year 1999 – the Institute of Musicology of the Jagiellonian University.



A. Wojnar

On the occasion of the jubilee, on 23-25 November 2011, a conference entitled *100 Years of Polish Musicology. History – Present – Perspectives* was held. It was organised by the Institute of Musicology and the Section of Musicologists of the Association of Polish Composers. This venture was part of the annual National Musicology Conferences organised by the Association of Polish Composers. The three-day conference gathered 39 specialists in musicology representing research centres from Poland and abroad (Kraków, Warsaw, Poznań, Wrocław, Szczecin, Gdańsk, Częstochowa, Zielona Góra and Berlin). During the conference 37 papers were delivered and they were grouped into seven thematic sessions.

The Centenary celebration was accompanied by a special event – the 70th birthday of Prof. Dr. Alicja Jarzębska. Her figure and scientific achievements were presented by Prof. Dr. Małgorzata Woźna-Stankiewicz. Prof. Alicja Jarzębska was the deputy head of the Institute (2001-2002) and then the director (2002-2007). Since 2003 she has directed the Department of Theory and Anthropology of Music. Her scholarly interests include the history of music of the 20th century, the history of theory of music and cognitive musicology. Prof. Jarzębska also specialises in the figure and output of Igor Stravinsky. She shared her experience and knowledge with several generations



Rector Musioł opening the conference

of students as well as doctoral students and collaborators. In the years 1985-2011 she supervised 63 Master's theses, five Bachelor's theses and two doctoral dissertations. Now she is supervising three doctoral dissertations. During the celebrations she received a commemorative book entitled *Muzyka jest zawsze współczesna* [Music is Always Contemporary] (published by Musica Iagellonica, 2011) as a gift from her colleagues, disciples and doctoral students who were inspired by her scholarly attitude.

There were also several exhibitions in the Institute of Musicology (*Publications of the employees of the Kraków musicology, Alumni of musicology in photographs*, a multimedia presentation of the history of the Association of Students of Musicology, the publications of Musica Iagellonica, which is a publishing house acting within the framework of the Institute). It is worth mentioning the very interesting exhibition organised by Prof. Dr. Małgorzata Woźna-Stankiewicz in the hall of the Jagiellonian Library, entitled *Zdzisław Jachimecki (1882-1953) – the creator of musicology at the Jagiellonian University*.

Two concerts added splendour to the anniversary. The Academic Concert was held in the aula of Collegium Novum. Its programme included the works of the most outstanding Polish composers: Karol Szymanowski, Mikołaj Henryk Górecki (who were honorary doctors of the Jagiellonian University) and Aleksander Lasoń, performed by the Kwartet Śląski. The

other concert was entitled *Evening of Songs of Kraków Musicologists*. The works of three generations of composers who were musicologists (Zdzisław Jachimecki (1882-1953), Włodzimierz Pożniak (1904-1967), Juliusz Łuciuk (born in 1927), Bogusław Schaeffer (born in 1929), Jakub Polaczyk (born in 1983) and Michał Jakub Papara (born in 1984) were performed. The interpreters of their compositions were Dagmara Świtacz (soprano), Magdalena Spytek (mezzo soprano) and Piotr Sałajczyk (piano).

The centenary anniversary of the Kraków musicology was an excellent occasion to exchange views and precious experiences. The talks given by the eminent Polish musicologists focused

on the past and present of the discipline as well as concern about its future. According to the still valid proposals of Prof. Jachimecki musicology cannot be an abstract field, closed within the University's walls but should promote knowledge about music in wide social circles. Facing the new cultural, social and political reality musicologists are meeting difficult and responsible challenges.

Anna Salamon, Justyna Szombara



The collection of recordings



The opening of the exhibition in the Jagiellonian Library



Success of Jagiellonian University law students

A team of Jagiellonian University law students took part in the 7th International Commercial Mediation Competition organised by the International Chamber of Commerce on 3-8 February 2012 in Paris. The Competition, which has become a high point on the international mediation calendar, is an opportunity for participants to apply the ICC Amicable Dispute Resolution (ADR) Rules in around 200 mock mediations – all conducted by professional mediators and based on real cross-border commercial disputes. The world's leading dispute resolution specialists act as judges and evaluate competing students on their performance in the roles of counsel and client. The ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition is the largest of its kind anywhere in the world. It is a practical demonstration of ICC's commitment to this field of dispute resolution. The idea of the contest is the development of mediation as an alternative method of solving commercial disputes and gaining the skills to recognise and overcome cultural barriers, which are part of law conflicts in the international dimension. This year

more than 60 teams from all continents took part in the competition.

The Jagiellonian University was represented by Olga Horbowy, Maria Kierska, Jakub Miejski and Piotr Semeniuk. Their coach was Małgorzata Kożuch PhD, Assistant Professor of the JU Chair of European Law, and Cezary Rogula, PhD student. The JU team reached quarter finals of the competition and was, therefore, one of the eight best teams in the world among which they were the only European public university team. It is worth stressing that in the 1/8 of the contest the JU team defeated one of the favourites, the winner of the United Kingdom Moot Court Competition.

In Paris the JU team competed against law students from the North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa; the University of Trento, Faculty of Law, Italy; the University of Ottawa, Canada; Northumbria University School of Law, Great Britain; London Metropolitan University, GB and the University of New South Wales, Australia. The JU team received a special award for the Best Interaction with the Mediator. This prestigious distinction is even more valuable as it is very much linked with

the substance of the Competition and the JU team was the only one recognised in this field.

It is also worth noting that for the last several years the JU alumni of law have been the best in the State Examinations, winning postgraduate practical legal training as articulated clerks (lawyers, advisers and notaries) in Poland. Last year 10,918 graduates of law took that exam in Poland. The JU alumni gained the best results. 64% of all the JU graduates passed the exam. The second university in the ranking was the University of Łódź with 54 % of its alumni passing the exam.

Małgorzata Kożuch

The Faculty of Law and Administration at the JU is the oldest law faculty in Poland. For years it has been regarded as the best faculty of law in various national rankings. The study programme is highly individualised. Besides attending several obligatory courses (e.g. criminal law, constitutional law) students are to choose their courses and seminars. They can also enrol in the Schools of Foreign Laws or become involved in the European Law Students Association.



From the left: J. Miejski, O. Horbowy, P. Semeniuk, M. Kierska, M. Kożuch, C. Rogula

Szyborska's Noble Prize medal at JU

The Lady of Polish literature Wisława Szymborska, Noble Prize Winner, died in Kraków on the 1st of February 2012 at the age of 89. Soon after winning the Noble Prize for Literature (1996), Mrs. Szymborska presented her Nobel Prize Medal to the Jagiellonian University Museum in Collegium Maius. Though she never completed her studies at the university, she always stressed her respect for the Jagiellonian University, which shaped the intellectual atmosphere of Kraków and influenced many people she admired and knew very well. In the academic year 1946/47 W. Szymborska studied Polish literature for a year and then in 1947 she enrolled in sociology. However, she decided to give up her studies and began working for cultural periodicals in Kraków.

Wisława Szymborska was famous for her consistent language, witty observations, empathy, great sense of humour and unconventional hobbies. That youthful freshness and cognitive curiosity was always present in her poems. 'In the language of poetry' – she concluded her Noble Prize lecture in 1996 – 'where every word is weighed, nothing is usual or normal. Not a single stone and not a single cloud above it. Not a single day and not a single night after it. And above all, not a single existence, not anyone's existence in this world.'

Her Nobel Prize medal was deposited with the Jagiellonian University and with her death it automatically became its property in accordance with Szymborska's last will. The Nobel Prize medals have had the same form for over 100 years. On the averse there is the profile of the founder Alfred Nobel with the date of his birth and death. On the reverse of the medals in literature there are two figures: the Muse Erato holding a lyre and a naked lad noting the words of her song. There is also an inscription with the words from The Eneida: INVENTAS VITAM IUUVAT EXCOLUISSE PER ARTES (Let us improve life through science and art) and the engraved name of the winner 'W. SZYMBORSKA/MCMXCVI.'

In the obituary the JU Rector and the whole academic community wrote that 'when a poet passes away his/her poems begin new lives.'

M. Kantor

'Cat in an Empty Apartment' by
Wisława Szymborska
Translation by Dr. Cavanagh
and Mr. Barańczak

*Die – You can't do that to a cat.
Since what can a cat do
in an empty apartment?
Climb the walls?
Rub up against the furniture?
Nothing seems different here,
but nothing is the same.
Nothing has been moved,
but there's more space.
And at night time no lamps are lit.
Footsteps on the staircase,
but they're new ones.
The hand that puts fish on the saucer
has changed, too.
Something doesn't start
at its usual time.
Something doesn't happen
as it should. Someone was always,
always here,
then suddenly disappeared
and stubbornly stays disappeared.*

The archive of Collegium Maius



The averse



The reverse



A. Wojnar

JCET laboratory opened

The Jagiellonian Centre for Experimental Therapeutics (JCET) is the first interdisciplinary university centre in Poland aiming at the development of pharmacotherapy by carrying out interdisciplinary research and collaborating with the industry. The centre was opened on 8 December 2011 in the building of the Jagiellonian Life Science on the new JU campus.

Within the framework of the infrastructural project co-ordinated by the JU a modern research infrastructure of JCET laboratories was created as a non-departmental JU unit. It embraces four JU faculties: Medicine, Pharmacy, Chemistry as well as Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology. Its satellite centres are the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of Łódź and the Department of Magnetic-Resonance Tomography of the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków. All JCET laboratories form a compact infrastructure conducting pharmacological research of the synthesis of chemical compounds, their chemical reactivity, evaluation of their activities (*in vitro*, *ex vivo*), the properties of the pharmacokinetic profile (ADME), modern methods of histological, biochemical and multimodal imaging, and especially the chemical compounds acting on the epithelium.

Anna Wojnar

Alma Mater February 144/2012



A. Wojnar

JCET laboratory

EURODOC 2012 in Kraków

EURODOC Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting took place in Kraków on 20-25 March 2012. The event was organised by the National Representation of PhD Candidates in Poland, the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków and the Jagiellonian University.



A. Wojnar

Rector Musioł welcoming the participants

Eurodoc is the European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers. It is an international federation of national associations of doctoral candidates and young researchers from 33 countries of the European Union and Council of Europe. Its objectives are: to represent doctoral candidates and junior researchers at the European level in matters of education, research, and professional development of their careers; to advance the quality of doctoral programmes and the standards of research activity in Europe; to promote the circulation of information on issues regarding young researchers; organise events, take part in debates and assist in the elaboration of policies about Higher Education and Research in Europe and establish and promote co-

operation between national associations representing doctoral candidates and junior researchers within Europe.

The main theme of the conference held in Kraków was "Funding – how to acquire scientific grants." The welcome speeches were delivered by the AGH Rector Prof. Antoni Tajduś, the JU Rector UJ Prof. Karol Musioł, the Marshal of the Małopolska Region Marek Sowa, the President of Eurodoc Ludovic Garattini and the President of KRD Robert Kiljańczyk.

The first plenary session was devoted to the role of public and private institutions in the funding of science (co-operation or competition?) and the speakers were: Dr. Theodore Papazoglou, European Research Council Executive Agency, Head of Unit UNIT A1; Prof. Andrzej Jajszczyk, Director of the National Science Centre and David Feltz, Euroscience, communications officer. The second plenary session concerned academic entrepreneurship and spin-off companies.

The sessions, workshops and panels of 23-24 March were held in Collegium Novum, Auditorium Maximum and the AGH University. The themes included: promoting and raising awareness on Charter & Code among young researchers; job (in)security in academia: the use of temporary contracts and its consequences; alternative sources of funding; the role of public and private institutions in supporting young doctoral candidates with disabilities.

M. Kantor



‘Beethoven: war and peace’ exhibition of music manuscripts

The Jagiellonian Library has organised an annual exhibition of music manuscripts since 1997 as an accompanying event of the Easter Ludwig van Beethoven Festival. This year the selection of the JU music manuscripts was dependent on the theme of the Festival’s 16th edition ‘Beethoven: war and peace.’

The leading topic of this year’s exhibition was to present Beethoven against the background of the political events and transformations, emphasising the influence they had on the works of the Viennese master. First of all, the exhibition presented the autographs of the composer from the collection of the former Prussian State Library together with the 19th century editions of his works, which are part of the music collection of the Jagiellonian Library. Special attention was paid to the sketches for Symphony No. 3 op. 55 ‘Eroica.’ At first Beethoven planned to dedicate his work to Napoleon I but he changed his mind when Napoleon proclaimed himself emperor. In the artist’s eyes it was a betrayal of the ideas of freedom. It is thought that the symphony opened the period of ‘heroic style’ in the activities of the Viennese composer. The examples of other works inscribed in this trend are: String Quarter in E flat major op. 74 (Harp) and Symphony No. 5 op. 67.



The welcome ceremony in the Słowacki’s Theatre

A. Wojnar

The works composed on special occasions, connected with the Congress of Vienna, are decidedly less known. The exhibition showed his sketches for the cantata 'Der Glorreiche Augenblick' op. 136, to the march for brass orchestra and the first print of the overture Wellingtons Sieg op. 91, being a programme work commemorating the victory of the British over the Napoleon's army at Vitoria (1813). These compositions constitute interesting examples of the interference of the political reality into the work of art, even influencing such great artists as Beethoven.

In the exhibition there were also the works of the late period of Beethoven's output. His notes to Symphony No. 9 op. 125 are of special interest. Most likely, using fragments of the poem entitled 'An die Freude' by Friedrich Schiller, Beethoven expressed fully his convictions and perhaps his Utopian vision of people's equality and brotherhood. The exhibits also included the autographs of three string quartets composed in the last years of Beethoven's life, belonging to the most pioneering and visionary chapter of his output.

The exposition also embraced the 19th century Polish music manuscripts from the collection of the Jagiellonian

L. Dziewulski

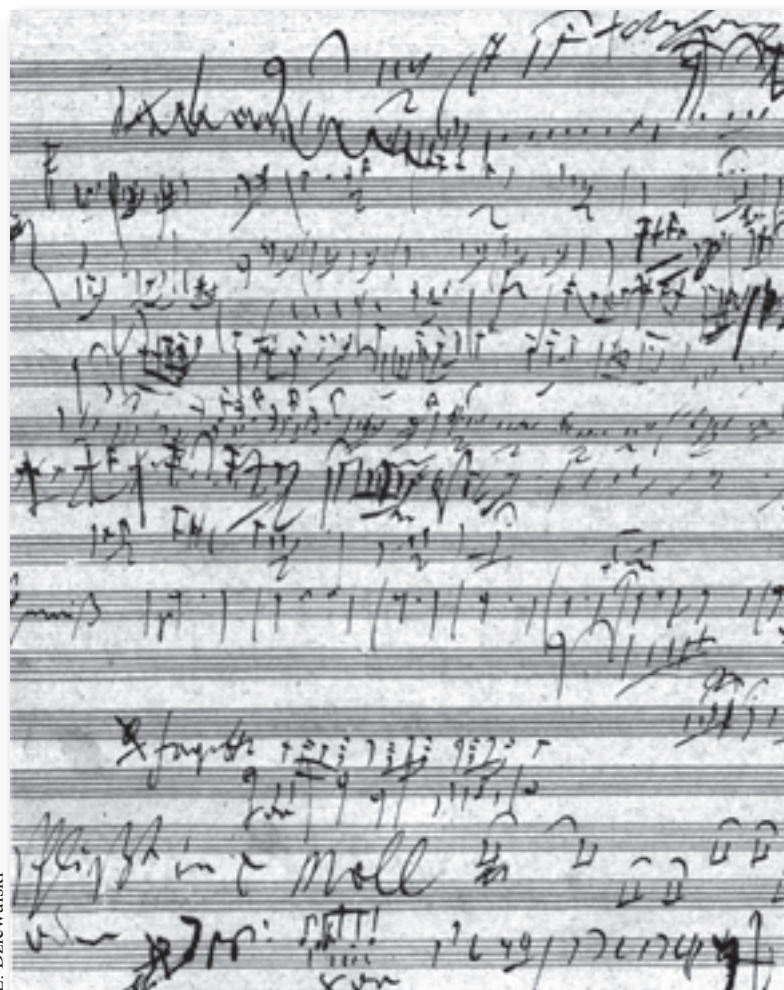
Library. These included the works of the Polish composers connected thematically and chronologically with the political events of the first half of the 19th century, such as the manuscript of the programme symphony 'The Battle of Moshaysk' by Karol Kurpiński composed in 1812 or

the autograph of 'Military Campaign' by Józef Władysław Krogulski from the year 1831. Finally, the exhibition featured documents related to the discussed period.

Michał Lewicki



Napoleon in 1819, standing on the shore of the island of St. Helena



Beethoven's sketches for the Egmont play by J. W. Goethe

50 years of scientific collaboration with Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena

This year sees the anniversary of 50 years of continuous collaboration between the Friedrich Schiller University of Jena and the Jagiellonian University. The agreement of scientific co-operation was signed on 24 March 1962 by the JU Rector Stefan Grzybowski and the Jena University's Vice-Rector Prof. Günther Drefahl, as the first agreement of the Jagiellonian University with a foreign institution after World War II.



Rector Stefan Grzybowski

The agreement included exchange of scientists and students on the basis of working programmes. The first programme of this type was prepared for the year 1963 and embraced: organic chemistry and biochemistry, physics, archaeology, pedagogy, psychology and collaboration between university libraries.

The next working programmes added the following fields: political sciences, law, history philosophy, English and Germanic philologies, Slavonic studies, zoology, linguistics, mathematics, economics, anthropology and history of art. There was also an intensive exchange of students, teachers of German and officers of university administration.

Both universities organised joint conferences and exhibitions. A separate working programme for the years 1981-82 was signed by the university libraries. It embraced the exchange of librarians, materials and publication of Polish works from the collection of the Jena library. A protocol to the agreement was signed in 1982 and concerned courses of German at the JU conducted by four teachers from Jena.

During the marshal law (1981-83) the University of Jena sent various materials and goods (paper, chemicals, etc.).

Although the University of Jena was reorganised after the unification of Germany in 1989 the agreement of scientific co-operation was renewed on 8 April 1992 by Rector Pelczar and Rector E. Schmutzer. The working programme for 1993 embraced eight fields: German studies, archaeology, law, chemistry, physics, biology, zoology and computer science. The collaboration between the university libraries and student exchange within the framework of Studentenwerk was continued.

On 13 January 1996 an annex to the agreement embracing the medical faculties was signed. Since 1996 the collaboration between both universities was intensified and embraced new disciplines: psychology and Polish studies. Scholarships for semester stays



Rector Andrzej Pelczar

for four students from both universities were added.

The next four year working programmes for 2000-2013 included several disciplines and dozens of research themes. Since 1995 the University of Jena has offered Thuringia scholarships for JU students. Till 2012 these scholarships have been given to 41 JU students. Since 1999 the bilateral exchange has embraced 44 students from Jena. The student exchange has also been realised within the Socrates/Erasmus programme since 2006 in the following fields: history, Polish studies, German Philology, English studies,



A. Bielański, B. Sośnicka, G. Rudakoff and K. Dyrek in the Tatras, the Seminar Jena - Kraków in the 1980s



K. Dyrek

The Kraków and Jena chemists during the seminar in Erfurt in the 1980s

physics, sociology, political sciences and pedagogy.

In 1992 a protocol to the general agreement concerning the collaboration between the JU and 'Studentenwerk' in Jena was signed. It aimed at supporting student meetings, cultural exchange and exchange of experiences between the social units of both universities. Within this framework the JU Choir performed in Jena in 1996 and the Jena Choir (consisting of 52 singers) came to Kraków in 1997.

One form of co-operation is joint conferences, symposia and Polish-German seminars. For example, since 1978 the Faculties of Chemistry have organised 5-day Seminars Kraków-Jena on physical chemistry every other year. About 40 scientists and PhD students participate in each seminar. For many years there have been seminars 'Current problems of European administrative law' organised by the Chairs of European Law. Joint conferences and student seminars have also been conducted by the JU Institute of Political Sciences and the Institute of Public Affairs. Furthermore, the JU Faculty of Polish Students can boast of long-standing collaboration concerning research themes.

The Jagiellonian University hosted Prof. Sigrun Eick from Jena as a visiting professor at the Faculty of Biotechnology in the academic year 2005/2006.

Within the 50 years of co-operation the exchange concerned hundreds of

scientists and students of the Jagiellonian University. Among them there are two emeritus professors who are still professionally active: Prof. Adam Bielański and Prof. Krystyna Dyrek from the Faculty of Chemistry. Prof. Dyrek was one of the first JU scientists who realised the one month post-doc research stay under the supervision of Prof. P. Fink at the University of Jena in 1966. She recollects her stay there, 'My research stay at the University of Jena was very fruitful because of the possibility of access to modern scientific apparatus in the Institute of Physical Chemistry and the possibility to conduct measurements in infrared spectroscopy. The University of Jena was a unit that

tested the apparatus produced by the Carl Zeiss Works in Jena.' Prof. Dyrek collaborated with Prof. Helga Dunken and Prof. Bielański with Prof. Georg Rudakoff.

The University of Jena is still one of the most important partners of the Jagiellonian University. The last working programme for the years 2011-2013 embraces 11 disciplines and 18 themes (law, history, sociology, Polish philology, Polish culture, German philology, pedagogy, molecular biology, chemistry, environmental sciences and physics) as well as collaboration between the University libraries.

Maria Kantor



K. Dyrek

E. Schmutzer, K. Dyrek, J. Barszczak and I. Malkiewicz on 8 April 1992

THE CULTURAL CONTRIBUTION OF POLISH MUSLIMS AND JORDANIAN CHRISTIANS TO THEIR INDIGENOUS SOCIETIES

During the one thousand years of Poland's history Muslim-Tatars have lived together with Poles, who are predominantly Catholics, for over 600 years. Christians have lived in the lands, which now belong to Jordan, for almost 2,000 years. The Polish language has become the mother tongue of the Muslims residing in Poland although they originated from the circle of the Turkish languages.¹ The indigenous Christians in Jordan commonly use the Arabic language although they were connected first of all with the Greek and Aramaic cultures earlier. Both groups are the sons and daughters of the countries they live in. Although they are minorities, they have worked for the benefit of their homelands, and throughout the ages they have many a time given their lives for them. The present article shows the cultural contribution of Christians to the societies living in present-day Jordan and the contribution of Muslim Tatars to Poland's heritage. The aim of this presentation is to answer the question about possible regularities concerning these groups, which could be useful to the inter-cultural dialogue.

a) Cultural contribution of Polish Muslims to the history of Poland

The number of Muslims in Poland has been incessantly increasing in the last 15 years: from ca. 7,000 in 1995 to ca. 20,000-30,000 in the year 2010. They constitute 0.06% of the Polish population. Most of them are immigrants from the Islamic countries. And one should add a certain number of Polish converts to Islam. One can hardly speak of some distinct cultural contribution of

this group. A considerable part of them treats Poland as a transit country and those who choose to settle in Poland represent various forms of Islam.

On the contrary, the followers of Islam in Poland traditionally come from the Tatar community, currently called the Polish-Lithuanian Tatars who constitute a group of 3,000 to 5,000 of all Muslims. Those Muslims who have resided in Poland for long were described in Old Polish as "muślimi" from the Arabic word *مُسلم*. Polish Muslims do not form a separate ethnic group although some scholars notice certain small anthropological differences. The first Muslim Tatars came to Poland in 1397 as prisoners of the Golden Horde.

the Teutonic Order so that it would be easy to mobilise them in case of war. This is the reason for the localisation of the traditional Muslim communities in northern-eastern Poland nowadays. There are several Muslim communities there as well as three old mosques in Kruszyniany and Bohoniki.²

The Tatars had the right to teach their religion and build their sanctuaries. They also received plots of land for their obligation to serve in the Polish army, forming their own units commanded by Muslim officers. As a result, the Muslims participated in most wars Poland waged until the partitions of the country. For example, they fought in one of the most important battles in Poland's history, i.e.



The mosque in Kruszyniany

U archive

¹ Cf. K. Cordell, A. Dybczyński, *Poland's Indigenous Ethnic Minorities and the Census of 2002*, in: "Perspectives on European Politics and Society. Journal of Intra-European Dialogue" 6/1 (2005), p. 85; 87. J. Tyszkiewicz, *Tatarzy na Litwie i w Polsce*, Warszawa 1989, and *Z historii Tatarów polskich 1794-1944*, Pułtusk 1998; A. Kołodziejczyk, *Rozprawy i studia z dziejów Tatarów litewsko-polskich i islamu w Polsce w XVII-XX w. W 600-lecie osadnictwa tatarskiego na ziemiach Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego*, Siedlce 1997; J. Sobczyk, *Położenie prawne ludności tatarskiej w wielkim księstwie litewskim*, Warszawa 1984; K. Warmińska, *Tatarzy polscy. Tożsamość religijna i etniczna*, Kraków 1999.

The Tatars' occupation in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was service in the army, which many a time put them in paradoxical situations. For instance, as Muslims they fought for Catholic Poland against the Catholic State of the Teutonic Order. On the other hand, Polish Muslims almost always stood by the Polish kings against the Sunni Turks. Therefore, one can speak about great loyalty of Polish Tatars towards their new homeland although the country placed them in an awkward situation.

The first Tatar settlements were built close to the border of the State of

the battle of Grunwald, in which 2,000 Tatars took part.

The fact that the Polish army consisted of both Catholics and Muslims caused that both groups were accused by their fellow brothers. For example, the Catholic enemies of Poland often recognised the presence of Muslims in the Polish army as a betrayal of Christianity, which could be observed, e.g. in the anti-Polish propaganda of the

² Cf. H. Mierzwiński, *Osadnictwo tatarskie na Podlasiu za Jana III Sobieskiego*, in: "Podlaski Kwartalnik Kulturalny" 2(1997), pp. 40-49.

Teutonic Knights before the Pope and in European courts. In turn, during the conflicts with the Ottoman Empire many Turks regarded the Muslims fighting for Poland as traitors to Islam. That could be the reason why the Polish Tatars wrote to their brothers in Crimea in the year 1508, 'Neither God nor the Prophet orders you to plunder and us to be ungrateful; we regard you as plunderers and conquering you with our sabres we kill rascals and not our brothers.' The Polish kings appreciated the faithfulness of Polish Muslims in the awkward situations during the wars between Poland and the Crimean Khanate and Turkey.

Polish Muslims many a time distinguished themselves with fortitude and bravery in the 19th and the 20th centuries, after the fall of Poland. They participated in all uprisings against Poland's occupants, i.e. in the Kościuszko Insurrection (1794), the November Uprising (1830-1831) and the January Uprising (1863-1864). After Poland had regained independence in 1918 the Tatars fought to protect her. Piłsudski agreed to create a military unit consisting of Tatars. Consequently, the Regiment of Tatar Cavalry of 600 soldiers was created and the Tatars fought against the Bolsheviks under their own green banner with a crescent during the Polish-Russian war in 1919-1921.

Apart from their military contribution, the Polish Muslims showed unique invention in the field of literary interaction. Since they did not know the Arabic language they began creating texts in Polish or the Polish-Belorussian dialect written in the Arabic alphabet. These works – although relatively few – constitute an original, Orient segment in the Polish literary texts. The Tatars created first of all religious works in Polish using the Arabic letters, e.g. *tefsiry* (from the Arab. تفسير – “commentary”), Koranic texts with Polish translations: *tedżwidy* (from the Arab. ديوان – “recitation”), textbooks containing the principles of reciting the Koran: *kitab* (from the Arab. كتاب – “book”), works of varied themes concerning the Muslim tradition (hadiths), legends, recipes, etc., *chamaity* (from the Arab. حمل – “to carry”), Muslim textbooks, prayer books of less official character, *dalawary* (from the Turkish dualar – “prayers”), scrolls of prayers and finally, *hramotki* – a kind of talismans protecting against misfortune.



K. Kościelniak

Prof. Kościelniak visiting Christian sites in the Middle East

The Tatars have been aware of their identity. Nevertheless, those living in Poland have not shown any separatist tendencies but on the contrary, they have been regarded as loyal Polish citizens for long. They have been rooted in Poland for good and bad. They have equally carried all burdens with the Polish population during World War II, like their ancestors did in almost all wars Poland was tormented with in the past.³

That is why the Polish army adopted many elements from the Tatar military tradition such as clothes or arms.⁴ It is worth knowing that the valued Uhlan tradition,⁵ which we associate with the most beautiful chapters of Poland's history, actually comes from the Polish Tatars. Recognising the Tatars' merits Poland's President unveiled the 'Tatar of the Republic of Poland' Monument on 25 November 2010.

b) Cultural contribution of Christians in the Jordanian lands

For Christians the lands of Jordan, connected with the biblical figures, are a part of the Holy Land. In ancient times they experienced a religious-economic prosperity, belonging to the Roman and then to the Byzantine provinces *Arabia Petraea*, *Arabia Augusta Libanensis* or *Palestina Salutaris*.

It is assumed that Saint Paul himself, the Apostle to the Nations, was active in Philadelphia, which is now Amman.

Christianity developed intensively in these territories from the first century, being connected with the Aramaic, Greek and Arab cultures. There were numerous bishoprics there, attested by *Notitia episcopatum*, and countless archaeological discoveries.⁶ The Archbishop of Philadelphia (Amman) participated in almost all universal councils.

When in the years 635-641 Muslim Arabs seized the lands of present day Jordan, Palestine and Syria they found mostly Christians belonging to different Churches living there. The Muslim-Christian acculturation intensified in the first centuries of the hijra (7th-8th AD) in the reign of the Umayyads (661-750) and contributed to shaping the Islamic civilisation in the time of the Abbasids (750-1258). Till the 9th century the Western achievements, mainly the Greek ones, were adopted in the world of Islam chiefly through the help of Christians of the Middle East. The famous Muslim scholar Ibn Ḥaldūn (1332-1406), in his epoch-making work *Al-Muqaddimah*, characterised this process in the following words, 'At first Muslims were a simple people, not being interested in art. But with time, their state began developing slowly and they began adopting the culture of the settlers [...]. They desired to study philosophical disciplines. They became acquainted with the teachings of the bishops and clergymen – their Christian subjects.' Then Ibn Ḥaldūn recollects scientific missions initiated by Caliph Al-Ma'mūn to Byzantium, aiming at acquiring Greek books. The messengers

³ Cf. A. Miśkiewicz, *Tatarzy polscy (1918 – 1945)*, Warszawa 1990.

⁴ Cf. J. Jaworski, *Jazda tatarska II Rzeczypospolitej. Dzieje, barwa i broń*, Warszawa 1988.

⁵ The Polish term “ułań” as a Kipchak form (Turkish “oghlan”) means a young man, brave.

⁶ Cf. M. Piccirillo, *The Mosaics of Jordan*, Amman 1993.

must have been mostly Christians who then translated many scientific works from Greek into Arabic. Many eminent Arab philosophers, e.g. Al-Fârâbi (ca. 870-950), were educated by Christians.⁷ Therefore, till the 10th century the Arab culture was created to a considerable extent by Christians residing in the Arab-Muslim world. They were followers of Christ having Greek, Syriac or Arab roots who studied philosophy, medicine and ancient Greek sciences in schools and monasteries. Christians assimilated conceptions of these sciences in Arabic and formed Muslim elites who replaced them with time.⁸

In modern times, especially in the 19th and the 20th centuries, Christians belonging to different Churches remained faithful to the scientific heritage contributing to the development of education in the Muslim world. In turn, the Christian system of education and publications were one of the fundamental impulses in the modernisation of the Middle East.

At the threshold of the present day, Arab Christians were the first in the Middle East to show the necessity of modern education and contacts with the West. As Bernard Lewis states till the 19th c. Muslims had a specific outlook of the world and themselves. From the Middle Ages Europe was regarded as little attractive and as a disciple of the world of Islam. Arabs did not fully realise that from the 16th c. the situation changed radically and a great civilisational progress took place in Europe. Entering into the modern epoch Europeans surpassed the world of Islam to a great extent, leaving behind its old scientific and cultural heritage. Till the second half of the 18th c. Muslims were not aware of this fact. They did not feel the need to translate the Western literature. For example, from the 13th to the 18th cc. only one Western book was translated into Turkish. Thanks to the

⁷ Cf. D. Gutas, *Greek thought, Arabic culture: the Graeco-Arabic translation movement in Baghdad and early 'Abbâsîd society (2nd-4th/8th-10th centuries)*, New York 1999; J.-M. Fiey, *Chrétiennesses syriaques sous les Abbâsides*, Louvain 1980; A. Badawi, *La transmission de la philosophie grecque au monde arabe*, Paris 1968.

⁸ Cf. K. Samir, *Rôle culturel des chrétiens dans le monde arabe*, Beyrouth 2005; G. Graf, *Geschichte der christlichen arabischen Literatur*, vol. I-V, Città del Vaticano 1944-1953.



A prayer of Polish Tatars

contacts with the Franciscans and then to the Maronite College in Rome Eastern Christians gained modern education, covering the growing gap between these worlds.

One of the first Arab Christians who acquired thorough education in the West was ʿIbrāʾīl ibn al-Qilāʾī (d. 1516), a Franciscan from the province of *Terra Santa*. In the next decade the number of Arab Christians studying in Europe grew systematically, which contributed to the creation of the Maronite College in Rome in the year 1583 at the initiative of Pope Gregory XIII (1572-1585).⁹ The college educated a large number of Eastern Christians who then formed the new Arab elites: bishops and writers contributing to the increase of contacts with the West. Thanks to that new initiatives, e.g. schools and printing houses, dynamising the society, were born.¹⁰ Thus Arab Christians were again the bridge between the East and the West, contributing to the development of the Orient.

Currently, Christians in Jordan have ca. 400,000 followers belonging to different Churches, constituting ca. 5-7% of the population. They have a high

level of citizen rights, representatives in the Parliament; they hold positions in the government and diplomacy and enjoy the freedom of worship without any obstacles.

In principle, the discussed examples concern special cases of acculturation, cultural-religious transformations, accompanying contacts of two social groups belonging to different civilisations. Both cases are attempts to solve problems related to finding one's way in a different primary culture. This process led to either unification of certain cultural patterns or acceptance of the patterns of one group by the other.

The examination of the role of the Muslim minority in Poland and the Christian minority in present day Jordan leads to certain regularities and differences.¹¹

a) In both cases there were changes resulting from continuous and direct contacts. They were transformational processes in culture, adaptation of new contents to one's own culture, stable

¹¹ As for the differences one should remember that after the Muslim armies conquered Syria Christians were not a minority at first. Whereas Polish Muslims – Tatars have always been a minority. It is hard to define the proportion of Christians to Muslims in the 10th c. Many a time scholars themselves avoid this issue and do not give concrete statistics. It seems that if in the 9th century Christians were a majority in the Middle East, in the 10th century they were not more than 20% of the population.

liquidation of indigenous contents and sometimes modification of elements of both groups. For instance, Polish Tatars replaced their native language with Polish whereas Christians in present day Jordan adopted Arabic rejecting Syriac and Greek. Terms from the Polish culture were applied to express Islam and the Arabic vocabulary was adjusted to describe Christianity, which had been connected earlier first of all with the Greek theological terminology. The Polish culture was enriched with military Tatar customs whereas the Semitic Muslim culture assumed the *principia* of Greek philosophy, especially the thought of Aristotle.

b) Out of the four possible results of the process of acculturation (assimilation, integration, separation, marginalization) to describe the condition of Christian minority in Jordan and Muslim minority in Poland the most appropriate term is integration. Both groups have integrated well in the local societies.

c) Fundamentally, the discussed groups have undergone all three main types of acculturation: necessary, advisable and complete.

The first stage that both groups passed was **necessary acculturation**, i.e. the first stage of living in a new culture that meant accepting necessary changes of one's behaviour (adjusting to indispensable cultural minimum). It

was an external acculturation, adjusting one's traditions and behaviours to those accepted in a given society. In the case of the Polish Muslims it was the acceptance of principles prevailing in Poland. They were granted permission to build mosques and found their schools; they had the possibility to use their properties freely, on equal rights with the Polish gentry. But they could not participate in political life in the country. In turn, Christians in the Middle East became citizens of the Muslim state. They received the status *بائتكال لهما* "People of the Book" with the right to practise their religion, however limited by the Charter of Umar and Sharia. But they held posts in the state administration.

Secondly, both communities passed through the stage of **advisable acculturation**, which embraced new areas in the process of integration with a new culture. These were various elements that made it easier for both groups to co-exist harmoniously with the domineering part of the society. This type of acculturation meant entering in the semantic sphere of defined behaviours, getting to know the language, adopting certain customs at work and in one's environment. At this stage both groups preserved still explicit features of the primary culture. Thus Polish Muslims accepted the Polish language, customs and laws at the same time preserving

elements of Turkish peoples' culture. Christians, members of the different Churches in the Middle East, replaced Greek or Aramaic with Arabic, which even courageously entered their liturgy. Yet the liturgy kept certain elements of the former languages and traditions pointing to the primary culture.

Finally, both groups are now at the stage of **complete acculturation** embracing ways of thinking and self-identification. Both Polish Muslims and Jordanian Christians are fully recognised as constant elements in their societies. Complete identification is visible: Polish Muslims are recognised as Poles accepting the Polish heritage and Jordanian Christians are regarded as Jordanians, sons of their homeland.

Therefore, both examples show that preserving one's religious identity does not require closing oneself within one, primary culture, which testifies that culture can be a dynamic reality, compliant to changes. These analyses show that the changes occurring in cultural patterns can lead to mutual enrichment and are not only an ordinary seizure of elements of one culture by the other.

*Krzysztof Kościelniak
JU Department of Middle
and Far East Studies*

The first JU programme abroad in London

On 12 November 2011 the Jagiellonian University inaugurated its first postgraduate programme 'Polish-British Strategic Partnership in the EU and NATO' in collaboration with the Polish University Abroad in London. This is a pioneering project of the oldest Polish Alma Mater organised in collaboration with the oldest Polish immigrant university. Till the end of April 2012 there will be classes concerning the Polish-British relations, culture, economy, politics, etc.

'It is a new initiative but already I can say that it is a success of our University since our offer has been received very positively. This year 28 students have enrolled in this programme and two of them decided to come here from Kraków to attend every class,' says Prof. Arkady Rzegocki, the proxy of the JU Rector and the director of this programme.



Prof. Rzegocki, Senator Person and Consul Truszkowski

All the enrolled students are fascinated with the British culture and the Polish tradition. As they say themselves they seek additional knowledge, get to know the literature concerning these topics and want to systematise the issues they have already known. 'We want this course to become a sign of quality of the Jagiellonian University in Great Britain.'

The programme is ambitious and the lecturers are experts in their fields, which could be seen during our first session,' Prof. Rzegocki adds.

During the first session the students had the occasion to listen to the lectures of Prof. Michael Fleming (PUNO), Prof. Halina Taborska (PUNO), Prof. Andrzej Nowak (JU) and the General Council

of the Republic of Poland Ireneusz Truszkowski as well as Senator Andrzej Person. The classes will be held at POSK and the Polish Club as well as in some historically important places, e.g. the Museum of London.

The expansion of the Jagiellonian University is really dynamic and the plans are ambitious. There will be debates, conferences and research programmes organised by the JU in Great Britain. At the beginning of 2012 a new postgraduate course directed to teachers of Polish as a foreign language will be opened. The programme of teaching the Polish language and culture will be supervised by Prof. Władysław Miodunka. 'I am convinced that many people will be eager to deepen their knowledge and gain the certificate to teach the Polish language and culture. At the same time our activities will contribute to the promotion of Poland in Great Britain and will make it easier for the Polish immigrants to preserve their Polish identity and culture,' Prof. Rzegocki concludes.

Agnieszka Pelc



Students of the programme



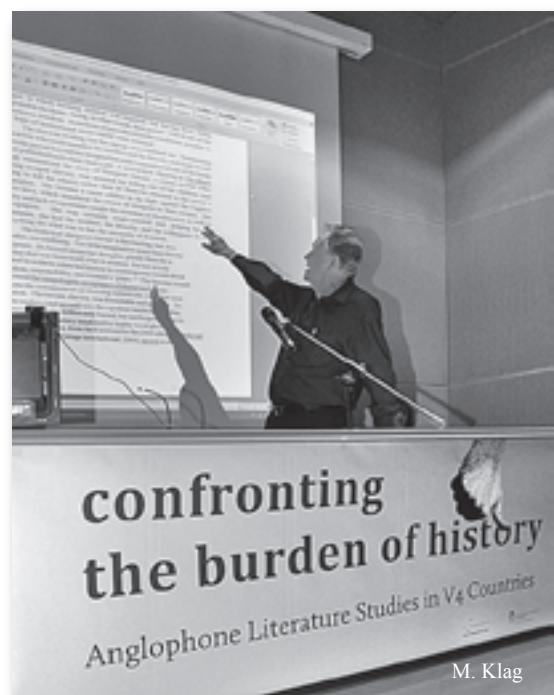
Confronting the Burden of History. Anglophone Literature Studies in V4 Countries

From 3-5 November 2011 the Jagiellonian University once again had the honour of hosting Prof. Hayden White, a prominent theoretician of historiography, a critic of culture, a professor of the history of consciousness at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a professor of comparative literature at Stanford University. His work has significantly changed the contemporary studies on historiography. Prof. White is also a leading theoretician of postmodern writing.

This time Prof. White visited the Faculty of Philology. His visit was organised as part of a project called *Confronting the Burden of History: Anglophone Literature Studies in V4 Countries*, conducted by the Faculty of Philology and financially supported by the International Visegrad Fund (www.visegradfund.org).

The Jagiellonian University was represented mainly by the faculty and doctoral students of the Institute of English Philology, but several scholars from other philologies took advantage of the opportunity to take part in the event. Other participants included representatives of the partner universities from Visegrad countries: Charles University in Prague, the University of Pardubice (Czech Republic), the Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Budapest (Hungary), Comenius University of Bratislava and the University of Prešov in Prešov (Slovakia).

Nearly all the participants are Anglophone literature scholars. The aim of the project – which is still in progress – is to familiarise the participants with the work of the leading contemporary theoreticians of history and culture



Prof. White lecturing



Open lecture held in the Jagiellonian Library

so that they can enhance their own academic and teaching qualifications. It also fulfils another important aim of the Visegrad projects, namely it enables members of the academic community of each respective country to extend their network of professional contacts to neighbouring Visegrad countries. As expected, the Visegrad partners discovered several convergences in their approach to history, and were able to confront their perspectives with the one represented by Prof. White.

The three-day event started with a Visegrad Lecture open to the public, delivered by Prof. White in the conference room of the Jagiellonian Library. The lecture was attended by about 150 people. The lecture, entitled 'History, Fiction, (Late) Modernist Writing,' addressed issues which have been the mainstay of Prof. White's

research: the role of narrative in historiography and the connection between literature and historical writing. The next two days were devoted to a series of workshops conducted by Prof. White for the project participants. The workshops took place at the Faculty of Philology at Kanonicza 14. The list of texts discussed during the workshops consisted of theoretical and literary works, presenting various approaches to historical experience. The question of Central-European trauma resulting from World War II, the Holocaust and the cold war featured extensively in the set texts. Intended for literature scholars, the reading list illustrated various aspects of an issue which is both epistemologically and ethically complex, namely what are the possible/desirable/acceptable strategies of representing the past in literature. To hone in on the problem,

Prof. White (as he often does in his books) used the example of the Holocaust – an event regarded by many as unrepresentable. Due to the nature of the problems discussed as well as the diversity of opinions manifested during the workshops, the experience was both unconventional and stimulating.

The next phase of the project will consist of the preparation of a joint publication in the form of a collection of articles. For more information, please visit the project website:

www.burdenofhistory.pl.

Bożena Kucala (IFA UJ)



M. Klag

Prof. White's workshop

Jewish studies at the JU and other research institutions in Poland

Past, present and perspectives

On 7-8 November 2011, under the honorary patronage of the JU Rector Prof. Karol Musioł, the international conference entitled *Jewish studies at the Jagiellonian University and other research institutions in Poland* was held at the Jagiellonian University. It fell on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the JU Interdepartmental Centre for the History and Culture of Jews in Poland, the 15th anniversary of the Commission for the History and Culture of Jews of the Polish Academy of Letters and Arts (PAU) and on the 10th anniversary of the JU Department of Jewish Studies. The conference was initiated by the Department of Jewish Studies and co-organised with the Commission for the History and Culture of Jews. The venue of the conference was the Polish Academy of Letters and Arts in Kraków, Sławkowska Street. Thirty-six scholars from Poland and abroad, including the Israeli Ambassador to Poland Mr Zvi Rav-Ner, delivered their speeches.

The first day of the conference was dedicated to the Jewish Studies in the 14th-20th centuries at the Jagiellonian University, the activities of the Interdepartmental Centre for the History and Culture of Jews in Poland, the Department of Jewish Studies and PAU Commission for the History and Culture of Jews. The conference was opened by the Director of the Department of Jewish Studies Prof. Edward





Ass. Prof. M. Smorąg-Różycka

Dąbrowa, the first President of the PAU Commission Prof. Jan M. Małecki, the Vice-Dean of the JU Faculty of History Ass. Prof. Małgorzata Smorąg-Różycka and the present President of the PAU Commission Prof. Maria Kłańska. Then Prof. Judith Olszowy-Schlanger, a lecturer from Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes at the Sorbonne and the President of the European Association for Jewish Studies, gave the inaugural lecture entitled *Fragments of the Hebrew manuscripts in the Jagiellonian Library and their meaning for research concerning the intellectual history of the Kraków Jews in the Middle Ages*. She stressed the phenomenon of secondary use of the Hebrew manuscripts in Poland, including their use to bind various books and their reclamation, which is now of great importance for scholars investigating the history of Polish Jews in the Middle Ages because of the humble sources concerning this topic.

The first session started with the talk of Dr. Wojciech Świeboda dedicated to the Jewish issues in the works of the JU professors of law in the 15th c.



Prof. J. Olszowy-Schlanger

The presentation of Ass. Prof. Stefan Gąsiorowski concerned directly the Hebraic studies (the Jews, their history and culture and first of all, their language) conducted at the JU from the end of the 15th c. In the beginning of the 16th c. the first professor of Hebrew was the Warsaw neophyte Leonard Dawid, promoted by Bishop Piotr Tomicki of Kraków (1464-1535). The interest in Hebrew was high until the middle of the 17th c. Moreover, in the 18th c. there were attempts to conduct Judaic research, which was presented by the next speaker Ass. Prof. Adam Kaźmierczyk, analysing the activities of Jan Antoni Opolski.

The Jewish studies was rooted as a research and didactic field at the Jagiellonian University in the 19th – 20th cc. The next talks delivered by Dr. Małgorzata Śliż, Prof. Eugenia Prokop-Janiec, Ass. Prof. Magdalena Sitarz and Dr. Anna Jakimyszyn concerned the interest in Judaic studies at the JU Faculty of Philology and the Faculty of Polish Studies as well as the research on the works written in Yiddish and Yiddish studies until modern times.

During the next session Dr. Andrzej K. Link-Lenczowski spoke about the history and research of the Interdepartmental Centre for the History and Culture of Jews in Poland, which had been created in 1986 at the initiative of the JU Rector Prof. Józef Andrzej Gierowski, who had also been the first director of the Centre. Fourteen years later (in the year 2000) the unit was transformed into the Department of Jewish Studies. Its present director Prof. Edward Dąbrowa presented the didactic activities and perspectives of development. His talk was completed by Ass. Prof. Leszek Hońdo, Dr. Edyta Gawron and Dr. Jacek Krupa. Their talks concerned epigraphic research, the profile of students and their themes of BA and MA theses.

The activities of the other scientific Kraków institutions were analysed by the next speakers. Ass. Prof. Michał Galas presented Jewish studies in the Polish Academy of Sciences, including the activities of the PAU Commission, created in 1996 and presided over by Prof. Jan M. Małecki. The members of the PAU Commission, specialising in various fields, have examined the history and culture of Jews in Poland and Europe. The activities embrace monthly meetings and discussions, scientific



conferences and the publication of the series *Prace Komisji Historii i Kultury Żydów*. In turn, Prof. Jerzy Wyrozumski, Secretary General of the PAU mentioned the need to restore memories about the Jewish population and culture in Kraków in such institutions as the Society of the Lovers of Kraków's History and Monuments and the Jagiellonian University, recollecting many personal stories.

The first day of the conference ended with an informal meeting in the JU building of Judaic Studies in Józefa Street in the former Jewish district of Kazimierz, during which fragments of the documentary film concerning the origin of the Interdepartmental Centre for the History and Culture of Jews in Poland and the first international conference organised on 22-26 September 1986, entitled *The Autonomy of Jews in the Polish Commonwealth* were shown.

The second day of the conference concerned first of all Judaic research at other Polish universities and research institutions. Scholarly achievements were presented by Angelika Adamczyk, MA, from the Department of Hebraic Studies of Warsaw University, Dr. Jolanta Żyndul from Warsaw University, Prof. Grzegorz Berendt from Gdańsk University, Dr. Małgorzata Domagalska from Łódź University, Prof. Daniel Grinberg from the University of Białystok, Prof. Jadwiga Muszyńska and Dr. Szymon Kazusek from the Jan Kochanowski University of Kielce, Dr. Marta Kubiszyn and Dr. Adam Kopciowski from the Marie Curie University of Lublin, Prof. Piotr Muchowski from the Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań, Dr. Łukasz Tomasz Sroka from the Pedagogical University of Kraków, Dr. Eleonora Bergman from the Jewish Historical

Prof. Andrzej Szczeklik in memoriam

Institute in Warsaw, Katarzyna Thomas, MA, from the University of Rzeszów, Ass. Prof. Maciej Tomal from the Higher School of Hebrew Philology in Toruń, Prof. Jacek Wijaczka from the Mikołaj Kopernik University in Toruń and Prof. Marcin Wodziński from the University of Wrocław.

The speakers in the final panel session entitled *Jewish Studies in Poland – form, threats and perspectives*, presided over by Prof. E. Dąbrowa, included the Israeli Ambassador Zvi Rav-Ner, Prof. E. Prokop-Janiec, Prof. Andrzej Trzcinski (UMCS) as well as the Rector of the State Higher School of Technology and Economics in Jarosław Prof. Wacław Wierzbieniec and Prof. M. Wodziński. They depicted the present condition and perspectives of development of the Judaic didactics on the basis of the various academic centres and problems connected with that.

The whole session showed that the Jewish studies at the Jagiellonian University could boast of a long tradition, reaching the modern times when on the wave of humanistic trends courses of Hebrew were introduced at the Kraków university. The session was to commemorate the hundreds of years of studies on the history and culture of Jewry and the latest history shaped by numerous students, scholars and professors of Almae Matris and other institutions in Poland. One should cherish the hope that it will contribute to strengthen mutual collaboration in Judaic studies among the different centres in Poland and abroad as well as to increase the level and widen the didactic offer in this area.

Stefan Gąsiorowski



Ass. Prof. Stefan Gąsiorowski

On 3 February 2012 Prof. Andrzej Szczeklik passed away. He was one of the most eminent Polish scientists and medical doctors.

Andrzej Szczeklik was born in 1938 in Kraków. His family was connected both with medicine – his father and two uncles were doctors (both were killed during the war), and with the artists' world. Young Andrzej attended grammar school and High Music School (piano class). After years he recollected how important it was to him to play the piano in public. But he chose medicine as his profession. He studied medicine at the Kraków Medical Academy where he received his medical diploma in 1961. He continued his postgraduate studies in the United States and Sweden. In 1963 he began working at the Medical Academy in Wrocław, where he also wrote his doctorate (1966) and habilitation dissertation (1969) in the field of internal diseases. In 1970 he returned to Kraków and was appointed as director of a small clinic of the Medical Academy in Kraków. In the years 1981-1983 he was Vice-rector, and in the years 1990-1993 – Rector of the Medical Academy in Kraków.

Prof. Szczeklik initiated and realised the idea of the return of medical faculties to the Jagiellonian University. In 1950 all faculties of medicine in Poland had been separated from universities by the communist government and transformed into independent 'academies of medicine.' In 1993, together with the JU Rector Prof. Andrzej Pelczar, he succeeded to join the Academy of Medicine with the Jagiellonian University. In the years 1993-96 Prof. Szczeklik was the JU Vice-rector for Collegium Medicum.

In 1997, the periodical *The Lancet* awarded him the first prize for his discovery of the genetic background of bronchial asthma. In 1998, the Royal College of Physicians in London awarded him for his research on the mechanism of the effects of aspirin and accepted him as its member. In 1991, he won a big international research contest announced by the EU Commission for Science and he used the money to reconstruct the clinic of internal medicine and build research laboratories and didactic facilities, which made it one of the most modern centres of internal medicine in Poland.



J. Sawicz

Prof. Andrzej Szczeklik wrote over 650 scientific papers, most of them were published in leading international medical periodicals. His scientific activities were made evident by Impact Factor – 676.4, 7,779 quotations (for 1996-2006) and Hirsch indicator – 48. He supervised 44 doctoral dissertations and 17 habilitation procedures. Ten of his students have become professors. He was a member of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Papal Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology, New York Academy of Science, the European Respiratory Society and many other societies. He wrote two textbooks of internal medicine that are the fundamental study aids for medical students.

Besides medicine Prof. Szczeklik was interested in music and art. He wrote two bestsellers entitled 'Katharsis' and 'Kore,' showing the relations between medicine and art. He used to say that science did not answer questions about the sense of life but art did. He bought a white piano for his clinic and organised concerts for his patients. Both famous pianists and students of musical schools performed there and could count on an attentive audience.

On 12 May 2009, Prof. Andrzej Szczeklik received the doctorate *honoris causa* from the Faculty of Medicine of the Jagiellonian University in the aula of Collegium Novum. The Senate

of the JU conferred the title of honorary doctorate on him in particular recognition of his virtues and merits: theory of origin and development of the aspirin-induced asthma; new model and method of examining thrombin genesis and using it to show specific distortions concerning blood coagulation in atherosclerotic diseases; first application of proctacyclin to man, the description of its effects on the human organism and therapy; discovery of genetic polymorphism of LTC₄ synthase, key enzyme in leukocyte biosynthesis; discovering common metabolic disorders of arachidonic acid in asthma and nettle rash with oversensitivity to aspirin; description of the symptoms, ways of diagnosis and treatment of aspirin-induced asthma. On that day he said in his lecture,

'In all professions there are essential situations that unveil their faces. And thus the essence of medicine is the meeting between the doctor and patient. One should listen to the patient's story, remembering that for the patient it is the most important situation and for the listener it is one of these stories that can become his – his own illness.'

'He was a wonderful doctor, extremely hard-working. He taught students and young doctors medicine and attitude towards patients, empathy and how to talk to the sick. He was a demanding boss but always helpful,' said Prof. Ewa Niżankowska-Mogilnicka from the II Chair of Internal Medicine, who had worked with Prof. Szczeklik for almost 40 years.

M. Kantor



Prof. Szczeklik's funeral in St Mary's Church

J. Sawicz

Euro-Russian Academic Network

Ten universities from the EU countries and eight Russian universities will work together on the ERANET Mundus project as part of the EU Erasmus Mundus initiative, with the aim of forging and strengthening academic links between Russian higher education institutions and their counterparts in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).

The EU partners in the ERANET Mundus (Euro-Russian Academic Network-Mundus) consortium are the University of Barcelona (co-ordinator), the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Radboud University Nijmegen, the University of Poitiers, the University of Duisburg-Essen, Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena, the University of Glasgow, the University of Siena, the

Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra and the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. The Russian partner universities are the Russian State Hydrometeorological University, the Siberian Federal University, Pskov State Pedagogical University, the South Ural State University, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Demidov Yaroslavl State University, Saint Petersburg University and the Lobachevsky State University of Nizhni Novgorod. The network also includes the following associates: the Spanish Higher Institute of the Environment, the Friends of the Baltic, the Committee for Nature

Preservation of the Russian Geographical Society, the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency and the Russian National Accreditation Agency.

Most of the ERANET Mundus EU members belong to the International Research Universities Network (IRUN), giving them experience of collaborative work in research programmes, joint degrees, conferences and symposia, summer courses and other activities.

ERANET aims to establish mobility flows between European and Russian universities for students at all levels of higher education and for teaching and research staff. The initiative is an



opportunity for Russian universities to learn more about the work of their European counterparts and to harness this knowledge to move forward with their own objectives. Russian higher education is in a transitional period which will see it introduce a degree structure more closely in line with the Bologna model, Russia having been one of the signatories to the Bologna Declaration in 2003. ERANET Mundus will establish a stable framework for student and staff mobility, create a platform for future collaboration, and contribute to meeting Russian and

European training requirements in the education sector. The project also aims to strengthen and extend international cooperation in areas including civil rights, citizenship and sustainability, through joint initiatives with NGOs and other organisations, and to promote awareness of the importance of linguistic and cultural diversity. ERANET Mundus will also contribute to the training of new generations of teachers for different educational levels as a response to the ageing of the workforce in the Russian education sector.

The participation of the Jagiellonian University in the ERANET Mundus project opens for its students, PhD students and staff members the opportunity to obtain education, training and work experience at Russian partner universities. The first call for application for mobility scholarships was closed on the 31st of January 2012. The next calls are planned for 2013 and 2014.

www.eranetmundus.ub.edu

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ERANET Mundus kick-off meeting in Barcelona, the 14-15th of November 2011

Developing intercultural competence through English – collaboration with Ivano-Frankivsk

The collaboration between the Jagiellonian University and the Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University (VSPNU) in Ivano-Frankivsk (formerly Stanisławów), Ukraine, has existed since 2007. One of the results of this co-operation is the collection of theoretical papers, readings and students' projects entitled 'Developing Intercultural Competence through English: Focus on Ukrainian and Polish Cultures,' in short DICE. It is the outcome of a joint innovative project of two English Departments of both Universities. The intended readers of the book are teachers and students of English as well as anyone interested in intercultural competence, in particular readers interested in the Ukrainian and Polish cultures.

The project aimed at improving communicative competence in English among Ukrainian and Polish students of English. It started out of Polish initiative in 2009 and was readily taken up by the Ukrainian partners. Both staff members and students were involved in intercultural tasks. DICE is an innovative project since it concerns Polish and Ukrainian students speaking English, which make them perceive their own and their neighbours' cultures in an international perspective and contribute to raising their intercultural awareness.

The collection of papers consists of two parts. The first theoretical chapters concern culture, communication and intercultural communication and competence. The second part is practical and embraces readings in Ukrainian

culture (customs, traditions, stereotypes, lifestyle, tourism and migration) as well as the latest developments in social life and projects in Polish culture (attitudes towards religion, anti-Semitism, standards of politeness and students' dishonesty). The authors of the papers include Prof. Anna Niżegorodcew, Dr. Ewa Bandura and Dr. Marcin Kleban from the JU Institute of English Philology and Dr. Yakiv Bystrow, Anastasiya Yermolenko, Olga Kulchytska, Tetyana Pan'kova, Iryna Pavlyuk, Lesya Ikalyuk, Oksana Petryna, Tetyana Skibitska, Nataliya Telegina and Ella Mintsyys from VSPNU. The practical papers on Polish culture were written by Roy Jones, a student from Ireland, Agnieszka Krzykowska, Ewa Bieta, Katarzyna Biegaj, Marta Pająk, Natalia Mól, and

Justyna Kula, Polish students, and Sarah Stinnissen, a Canadian student, and Alexandra Balant, an American student at the Jagiellonian University.

Last but not least, the collection of papers were edited by A. Niżegorodcew, Y. Bystrov and Marcin Kleban by the Jagiellonian University Press in 2011.

M. Kantor

Awareness of one's own cultural background is considered an inevitable basis for more or less conscious comparisons that the students will make when encountering other cultures.

Instances of behaviour considered impolite by the foreigners:

- not giving up your seat for the elderly in public transport,
- speaking loudly in public,
- addressing elderly people in an informal way,
- not showing hospitality for your guests,
- talking negatively about one's religion,
- not dressing up in a nice restaurant or wedding,
- not accepting food you are offered when visiting someone,
- being drunk in public places,
- not opening the door for women,
- being disrespectful towards a teacher or older person.

Medical Development in Europe

Over the last four years the Jagiellonian University Medical College has been offering its students unique and exciting opportunities to broaden their medical knowledge. The University has provided its students with the chance to take part in the "Medical Development in Europe" programme. This is an annual 3-week exchange between the three world-renowned universities: Karolinska Institutet, the Jagiellonian University Medical College and Università degli Studi di Cagliari.

This academic year the group that took part in this exchange consisted of 43 students. 18 of them were from the Jagiellonian University. This group of students was selected on the basis of their academic and extracurricular achievements. They all demonstrated the desire to broaden their knowledge in the most prominent issues that Europe is currently facing in the health care field. The exchange was held under the patronage of the Dean of the JU Faculty of Medicine Prof. Tomasz Grodzicki. The main organiser was Prof. Tomasz Brzozowski, who made every effort to conduct this remarkable programme.

During the course the selected students were to spend a week in three different cities: Stockholm, Kraków and Cagliari. In each location they had to attend a series of lectures and clinical rotations. The lectures, given by specialists in a wide variety of fields,

provided students with the unique opportunity to learn about the most prominent health issues that exist in Sweden, Italy and Poland. On the other hand, the clinical rotations gave students the opportunity to learn about health care delivery in each of the different countries. While it became quickly evident that there were certainly quite a few differences among the nations, the students agreed that regardless of the location the ultimate goal was always the same – to provide quality patient care.

Not only did this course give the students an opportunity to expand their medical knowledge but it also allowed them to experience the unique sights and traditions of each individual country. Stockholm surprised them with its hospitality and countless museums that captured the country's rich history. Kraków's breathtaking main square, ringed by outdoor cafes and the twin spires of a magnificent church was a sight that they would never forget. Meanwhile, Cagliari's exceptional cuisine and beautiful beaches were the highlight of their stay. What came as the biggest surprise, however, was the lasting friendships that were made in the process. It goes without say that the participants will walk away from this with memories that will last a lifetime.

*Justyna Lorenc, Olga Cyganik,
Paweł Bogacki, students of medicine,
JU Medical College*



The participants of the programme in the courtyard of JU Collegium Medicum

Visit from Goethe University Frankfurt

On 23-24 February 2012 the Jagiellonian University hosted a delegation from Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, headed by the Vice-President Prof. Rainer Klump. During the first day of the visit the delegation met the JU Rector Prof. Karol Musioł and the Vice-Rector for Personnel and Financial Policy Prof. Michał du Vall, and saw the JU Museum in Collegium Maius.

The second day of the visit was filled with working visits to the JU faculties and institutes. Prof. Klump and Mr. Andre Gröger (Strategic Partnerships Co-ordinator) paid a visit to the Faculty of Management and Social Communication on the JU new campus. They met Prof. Jacek Ostaszewski, the Dean of the Faculty of Management and Social Communication, and scientists from the Institute of Economics and Management and the Institute of Public Affairs. They also talked to Mrs. Halina Michalik, the Head of the International Relations Office, and Dr. Maria Kantor, liaison officer in IRO, about a possible future agreement of scientific co-operation. In turn, Prof. Michael Huth (Dean and Professor at the Faculty of Physics) visited the Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science, including the Institute of Physics. He met the Dean Prof. Jerzy Jurkiewicz and visited the workshops and laboratories of Prof. Józef Spalek, Prof. Stanisław Wróbel, Prof. Krzysztof Tomala and Marek Szymoński. Prof. Guido Pfeifer (the Faculty of Law) went to the JU Faculty of Law and Administration, where he had meetings with the Dean Prof. Jerzy Pisuliński as well as with Rev. Prof. Franciszek Longchamps de Berier from the Chair of Roman Law and Prof. Kazimierz Baran from the Chair of the History of State and Law. He also visited the Institute of History and talked to Prof. Stanisław Sroka, the Director of the Institute of History, and Prof. Artur Patek, Vice-Director, and Ass. Prof. Sławomir Sprawski, a specialist in ancient history. Prof. Christian Wiese (Professor of Protestant Theology) paid a visit to the JU Department of Jewish Studies, directed by Prof. Edward Dąbrowa. The Department is located in the former Jewish District of Kraków called Kazimierz. Prof. Matthias

Ludwig (Professor for Didactics of Math and Informatics) went to the Institute of Mathematics, meeting Dr. Zdzisław Pogoda, the Department of History of Mathematics and Dr. Sławomir Rams, the Department of Analytical and Algebraic Geometry, on the new JU campus.

The Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main and the Jagiellonian University are similar institutions as far as the size, number of students and structure are concerned. Situated in Germany's most cosmopolitan and international city, the university attracts a diverse body of students and researchers from around the world. Goethe University has 16 faculties and ca. 41,000 BA and MA students, including over 4,500 international

students (361 Polish students). There are five Erasmus agreements between both universities, in the field of history of art, medicine, pharmacy, sociology and geography.

It is worth knowing that currently the Jagiellonian University co-operates with 24 (out of 182 universities) German universities within the framework of bilateral agreements and has signed 195 agreements (out of 1,101) with German universities within the framework of the Erasmus LLP.

M. Kantor



Prof. du Vall, Prof. Huth, Prof. Pfeifer, Prof. Musioł, Prof. Klump, Prof. Ludwig and Prof. Wiese in the aula of Collegium Novum

A. Gröger

Polish-Chinese Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions

The first Polish-Chinese Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions in Beijing on 20 December 2011 was not only an important event in the Polish-Chinese relations on account of the participation of President Bronisław Komorowski but also because it is a new opening in the development of internationalisation at Polish universities. For the first time the Polish President encouraged the Chinese to study in Poland, saying, 'Poland is a wide open gate through which one can enter the whole area of Europe.' The President was accompanied by Prof. Barbara Kudrycka, the Minister of Science and Higher Education, who signed an agreement of co-operation in higher education with the President of the People's Republic of China Hu Jintao. The agreement concerns the exchange of students and scientists, joint research projects and new departments of Polish studies in China as well as new departments of sinology in Poland.

The Polish-Chinese Forum of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions was held at the Beijing Foreign Studies University. The forum gathered 20 state and private institutions of higher education from Poland, including the Jagiellonian University, the University of Warsaw, the University of Łódź and the University of Szczecin. There were also over 20 Chinese universities interested in collaborating with Poland. The Jagiellonian University was represented by Prof. Marta Kudelska, the Vice-Dean of the Philological Faculty and the Department of Comparative Civilisation Studies, and Mr Mirosław Klimkiewicz, the Head of the International Students' Office.

During the forum the importance of academic cooperation for the development of Polish-Chinese partnership and perspectives for future co-operation were discussed. The Technical University of Łódź and the Minzu University of China signed an agreement on academic co-operation in the field of granting double degrees. Mr Klimkiewicz gave a speech on the system of higher education in Poland as part of the EU system, the Bologna process, ECTS, Diploma Supplement, the role of PAC, rules for creating the

education programmes and courses as well as the criteria of admission to higher education institutions.

Prof. Witold Bielecki, the Rector of the Koźmiński University in Warsaw – one of the non-public universities in Poland – spoke about the state vs. the public universities, the quality of education, accreditation, rules for creating the education programmes and courses and the criteria of admission to higher education institutions. Mrs Yang Meng, the China Education Association for International Exchange, presented the issue of internationalisation at Chinese universities. In turn, Prof. Zhao Gang, the Dean of the School of European Languages and Cultures, introduced the programme of Polish studies of BFSU and collaboration between China and Poland.

The panel discussion concerned best practices and experiences in academic cooperation: the Polish-German double

diploma programme involving Chinese students, student mobility, joint programmes, the Confucius Institute, issues concerning the linguistic preparation of Chinese students to study in Poland, formal requirements, the differences in the modes teaching of languages, the possibility of using the support offered by Polish universities to Chinese students to study in English, adaptation and language courses, e-learning; experiences from teaching Chinese students, experiences in postgraduate studies for foreign students and training courses on various aspects of the functioning of the EU.

Currently, there are ca. 500 Chinese students studying in Poland. At the Jagiellonian University seven Chinese students are studying in the academic year 2011/12.

M. Kantor



Mr Klimkiewicz speaking during the forum

T. Skowroński

Why Kraków? – That is the golden question.

Friends, family, peers and teachers asked the same question. Even in Kraków, fellow Erasmus students, teachers and Polish students continue pondering this question.

For them, I have one answer: The air is sweeter, richer and clearer in Kraków. Coming from a city that shares only few similarities and many differences with Kraków, the question is not at all out of context.

Kraków, a small, traditional and historical city and Sydney, an enormous, modern and technology thriving city – their differences are striking. Kraków survived the disastrous Second World War. Sydney was transformed

D. Sanda



*Dominika Sanda
in front of the Cloth Hall in Kraków*

From Sydney to Kraków

from an Indigenous Community to a cosmopolitan city. Kraków is home to one of the oldest universities in the world and has a long list of well-regarded alumni, including Nicolaus Copernicus. Sydney is home to two iconic monuments – The Sydney Harbour Bridge and The Opera House. Kraków is surrounded by family countries, while Sydney borders other Australian cities and is encircled by a sea of water.

Although strikingly different, they do share imperative similarities. Both are considered as cultural capitals of their countries. Both are swarmed by conflicting nationalities, religions and cultures. Distance sets these two cities apart even more. When pointing on a map, hands need to stretch across two sides of the world to place these cultural capitals.

These differences and the distance between these two cities acts as a reason for people to question anyone's choice to move from Sydney to study in Kraków. In all honesty – it is a unique choice. One, that not many people understood. One, that even I found myself questioning. Thankfully, a few days in this culturally rich and historically beautiful city and it's hard to picture yourself anywhere else.

Sydney, being a very modern city, doesn't share Kraków's historical depth and traditional culture. The atmosphere in Kraków is one that you can't experience in such a cosmopolitan city such as Sydney. Going to university in Sydney, a landscape of tall buildings,

skyscrapers, busy roads and a swarm of people inundates your vision. It's overwhelmingly busy and disturbingly modern compared to the almost quiet and historically traditional landscape in Kraków. The picturesque atmosphere places you on a cloud, as you float through beauty and touch treasure.

It's not just the atmosphere and landscape that excites and overwhelms one's mind. The education and wide range of subject choice is as surprising as the amount of hidden restaurants, clubs, bars and cafeterias in Kraków.

For an Australian, it almost seems that we have been sheltered from not just Poland's but Europe's rich and prominent history. During secondary school, attention to important detail regarding Europe, its ties, conflicts and historical events were ignored. Attending classes at the Jagiellonian University opens each student's eyes and provides a spectacular basis of knowledge about Poland's and Europe's prominent history.

Being surprisingly pleased with the education and atmosphere in Kraków, the lack of mass media attention in the city also felt blissful. As a media student in Sydney, it became drawn to my attention that the mass media have become a disturbingly prominent and normal part of everyday life back home. Television, radio and print media dictate what we can and cannot do, what we should wear, what we should look like, who to vote for, what we should think

and ultimately who we are. Living in Kraków provides a break from that – a breath of fresh air.

The air is indeed sweeter, richer and clearer in Kraków.

While the air in Sydney will always remind me of the familiar, the air in Kraków has orchestrated a new life for me; one that I never knew existed, but now could never live without.

Here's the golden answer: Kraków – incredibly monumental and spectacular, has deepened my knowledge, written my freedom, equipped my independence, jump started my maturity, filled my mind with animation and has taken hold of my heart for what could be forever.

*Dominika Sanda
(Erasmus student from Australia)*



D. Sanda and Anne Sadza (Dutch Erasmus student)

ORIENTATION WEEK

for Erasmus students

The Jagiellonian University officially greeted its Erasmus incoming students for the summer semester on 20 February 2012. Over 150 Erasmus students turned up for that event. On behalf of the JU the Institutional Erasmus Co-ordinator Mirosław Klimkiewicz, Head of the International Students Office, welcomed all of the students and presented the scope of activities for Erasmus students.

Then the Erasmus students took the JU oath in Polish and English. They repeated the words of the oath after Bartłomiej Basiura (ESN). The President of the ESN at JU Magdalena Żurowska presented the Erasmus Student Network. She talked about the attractions of the Orientation Week (20-26 February), namely the University Day (visit to the Jagiellonian Library and the university campuses), the Sports Day (go-carting and paintball with professional instructors), the Multi-Culti Day (sightseeing tours), various parties (Tram Party, i.e. a 2- hour trip in an old tram where you can have fun and socialize with people or Language Evening – meeting in a club where the tables have been assigned to different nationalities so that students can talk to native speakers) and planned trips to the Tatras and the Mazury lake district. One could see that a week full of fun and joy was prepared for the Erasmus students and they should not miss this chance. Naturally, the ESN team depicted the whole scope of semester activities organised by the ESN teams: travel, party, culture, sports, public relationships and tandem scheme (learning languages). They also mentioned charity activities. In turn, Julian Tateno spoke about legal issues ELSA concerning international students.

The presentation of Krzysztof Byrski 'Studying at the Jagiellonian University' obviously attracted the students' attention as it focused on the formalities and practical aspects of studying: on-line registration to courses, ID cards, learning agreements or certificates. It was followed by questions.

Justyna Jochym from the JU Centre for European Studies spoke about cultural shock and cultural differences. She emphasized that even



A. Wojnar

Mr Klimkiewicz welcoming the Erasmus students

in a globalizing world there were always differences in culture, which were not necessarily good or bad. Everyone needs time to adjust to them. Arriving in a new country and at a new university, with its own incomprehensible traditions, doubles the potential shock.

Finally, Simon Dale from the British Council talked about the importance of effective speaking and writing in

English and the course of English for Academic Purposes organised by the British Council.

In the second semester of the academic year 2011/12 there are 395 Erasmus students (218 female and 177 male). Out of them 228 continued their studies from the first semester and 167 came for the summer semester.

M. Kantor

Erasmus incoming students according to JU faculty – summer semester 2011/2012

Philosophical	75
Management and Social Communication	61
International and Political Studies	60
Philological	60
Law and Administration	49
Medicine	25
Historical	20
Biology and Earth Sciences	14
Polish Studies	13
Chemistry	5
Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology	3
Interfaculty units	3
Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science	3
Mathematics and Computer Sciences	2
Pharmacy	2
TOTAL	395



A. Wojnar

S. Dale and K. Byrski

Erasmus students according to nationality – summer semester 2012

Spanish	125
French	63
German	58
Italian	27
Turkish	23
Hungarian	12
Dutch	9
Czech	9
Slovakian	8
Lithuanian	7
Greek	7
British	7
Bulgarian	6
Austrian	5
Croatian	5
Latvian	4
Belgian	4
Portuguese	4
Slovenian	4
Estonian	2
Norwegian	1
Swiss	1
Swedish	1
Romanian	1
Cypriot	1
Finnish	1
TOTAL	395



A. Wojnar



A. Wojnar

Carnival ball in the School of Medicine in English

All international medical students, including the Erasmus ones, attending programmes of medicine in English at the Jagiellonian University, were invited to the Fourth Annual Foreigners' Ball of the School of Medicine in English at the Faculty of Medicine, which was held on 11 February 2012. Some 150 of them turned up in the historical hall of the Kraków City Council, where the ball was organised. This year the evening outfits were to focus on various forms of men's and women's hats. Apart from entertainment there was a charity collection for the University Children's Hospital. The students of the four-year programme had gathered 9,600 zloty for the hospital at their Halloween party and during the ball



J. Sawicz

The ball in the hall of the Kraków City Council



Alexander Pasek and Karolina Szkutnik handing the cheque to Prof. Fyderek

they handed a cheque to Prof. Krzysztof Fyderek, the head of the Institute of Paediatrics of the University Children's Hospital. Another element of the ball was a raffle. Two i-pads were given to those students that had submitted evaluation sheets concerning their academic courses. The students themselves prepared the artistic programme of the carnival ball.

Paulina Kubyliś

Swimming Contest for the Dean's Cup

The Sports Association of the JU Collegium Medicum organised a swimming contest on 2 December 2011. It gathered 45 medical students, including 20 international students from the School of Medicine in English. The students competed for the Cup of the Dean Prof. Tomasz Grodzicki. The winners among male swimmers were: Bartosz Domin (I place, a student of medical rescue), Martin Skavang (II place, a Norwegian student of medicine) and Łukasz Sikora (III place, a student of medicine). Among women the winners were: Magdalena Drab (I place, dentistry), Ewa Okuńska (II place, medicine) and Małgorzata Osmola (III place, medicine).



The men's competition



All the contestants